

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/759,772

Applicant(s)

PATTERSON ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Pierre-Michel Bataille

2186

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 08/28/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-26.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Pierre-Michel Bataille  
Primary Examiner  
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***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 1-26 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the present invention features a controller to receive job from a source and a set of components that receive, complete, and pass on jobs.

Closed related prior art:

US 6,578,096 (Steinmetz et al) teaches method and system for more efficient completion of host-initiated FC I/O operations within a fibre channel node having an interface controller comparing an indication of a number of bytes transferred during a remote transaction to an indication of an expected number of bytes to be transferred during the remote transaction and indicating completion status, i.e. whether remote transaction successfully completed or not completed successfully as a result of the comparison of the indication of the number of bytes transferred during the remote transaction to the indication of the expected number of bytes to be transferred during the remote transaction.

US 6,157,977 (Sherlock et al) teaches bus bridge and method for ordering read and write operations in a write posting system having an interface, the bus bridge includes first mechanism for counting the number of write operations that are received by the bus bridge and queued in the write posting storage and second mechanism for counting the number of write operations completed, and mechanism for measuring the age of data

held in each cache line and for determining by comparing the age of the data held in a cache line to be read with the difference between the number of write operations received bridge and the number of write operations that have completed.

US 5,805,883 (Saitoh) teaches interrupt process distributing system having interrupt transfer control unit, connected a CPU and queue counter, that counts the interrupt requests as received from an interrupt bus, compares the number of queued interrupts with the number of received interrupt requests, and transfers the received interrupt requests to the CPU when the number of the received interrupt requests exceeds the number of queued interrupt requests.

However, none of the prior art of record teaches or renders obvious the features of the claims, specifically:

*job flow analysis devices configured to the controller to track the number of jobs received, completed, and passed on by each component, wherein the controller compares the number of jobs received with a sum of the number of jobs completed and passed on by each component (as recited in claims 1 and 13).*

*comparing the number of jobs received by a process and a sum of the number of jobs completed and passed on by the process; deciding whether the sum of a threshold amount and of the number of jobs completed and passed on is greater than the number of jobs received; and*

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*performing a corrective action when the sum of the threshold amount and the number of jobs completed and passed on versus the number of jobs received is not acceptable (as recited in claims 5, 18, and 24).*

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pierre-Michel Bataille whose telephone number is (571) 272-4178. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (8:00A to 4:30P).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew M. Kim can be reached on (571) 272-4182. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Pierre-Michel Bataille  
Primary Examiner  
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